

**Meeting Minutes**  
**TEXAS STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION BOARD**  
**January 17, 2008**

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board met on January 17, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. in its Hearings Room at 311 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Temple, Texas.

Board Members present were:

Jerry Nichols, Chairman  
Reed Stewart, Vice Chairman  
Aubrey Russell, Member  
José Dodier, Member  
Barry Mahler, Member  
Joe Ward, Member

Board Member absent was:

Larry Jacobs, Member

Staff members present were:

Rex Isom, Executive Director  
Andy Garza, Regional Office Coordinator  
Judy Albus, Program Supervisor  
Andy Kuklish, Natural Resource Specialist  
Steve Jones, Program Supervisor  
Lawrence Brown, Program Supervisor  
Johnny Oswald, Program Supervisor  
Mark Cochran, Program Supervisor  
Jack Foote, Program Specialist  
Bob Gruner, Program Specialist  
Ben Wilde, Program Specialist  
Joe Freeman, Program Specialist  
Adrian Perez, Program Specialist  
Kendria Ray, Program Specialist  
Trey Watson, Program Specialist  
Joel Clark, Program Specialist  
Don Brandenberger, Program Specialist  
Charlie Upchurch, Program Specialist  
Kenny Zajicek, Fiscal Officer  
John Foster, NPS Team Leader  
Lee Munz, NPS SWCD Liaison  
T. J. Helton, NPS Grant Coordinator  
Aaron Wendt, NPS Watershed Coordinator  
Pam Casebolt, NPS Project Manager  
Donna Long, NPS Project Manager  
Meredith McArthur, Information Specialist  
Richard Egg, Engineer  
Mel Davis, Special Projects Coordinator  
Clyde Gottschalk, Program Specialist  
Dawn Heitman, HR Coordinator  
Vicki Davis, Administrative Coordinator

Others present were:

Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Daren Harmel, USDA - ARS  
Don Gohmert, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Tamara Daniel, Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts  
George Noelke, Office of the Attorney General

Chairman Nichols called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. and welcomed those present.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: Opportunity for Public Comment**

There were no comments presented at this time.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: Comments from Federal, State and Local Governmental Entities**

Daren Harmel, USDA-ARS discussed his agency's budget.

Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality reported on TCEQ contract with Dr. Rainwater to look into the Brush Program. He stated they will be working closely with State Board personnel on this issue.

Don Gohmert, Natural Resources Conservation Service reported on: Farm Bill has not passed, EQIP extension with Texas receiving \$64 million which they are trying to obligate before the Farm Bill is passed, GSW, their work with the Corp of Engineers, WRDA Bill and its possible involvement with the State Board in the Bosque River Basin, and O&M on dams.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: Comments from the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts**

Tamara Daniel reported on: Steve Robinson is acting director of NACD, national meeting in Reno in February, Texas receiving top 10 quota award, email survey and the Farm Bill.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: Minutes from the November 28-29, 2007 Board Meeting**

Chairman Nichols called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 28-29, 2007 Board Meeting as emailed. Mr. Dodier moved that the minutes be accepted as emailed. Mr. Mahler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: District Director Appointments**

Ms. Davis presented district director appointments for the Board's consideration and verified they were in order and met all qualifications with the exception of Mr. Goebel and Mr. Beavers being fax copies. Mr. Dodier moved the following appointments be approved contingent upon original paperwork being received in the Temple office. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Arlen Goebel, DeWitt County #339, Zone 5, Replace Jack Garrett (FAX)  
Ricky Baird, Red River County #423, Zone 3, Replace E. H. Hausler  
James Reynolds, Smith County #426, Zone 3, Replace Emily Waddleton  
Robert H. Beavers, Coastal #432, Zone 3, Replace Grady P. Clubb (FAX)  
Jim Blalock, Denton County #547, Zone 1, Replace Robert Henzler  
Bill Fennell, Wise #548, Zone 2, Replace Dan B. Maeyers

**AGENDA ITEM 6: Subdivision Boundary Changes for Roberts County Soil and Water Conservation District #145**

Mr. Gruner reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the subdivision changes be approved as presented. Mr. Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 7:** Subdivision Boundary Changes for Freestone Soil and Water Conservation District #424

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the subdivision changes be approved as presented. Mr. Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 8:** Subdivision Boundary Changes for Coastal Soil and Water Conservation District #432

Mr. Clark reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the subdivision changes be approved as presented. Mr. Russell seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 9:** Subdivision Legal Description Changes for Lower Clear Fork of the Brazos Soil and Water Conservation Districts #551

Mr. Upchurch reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the subdivision legal description changes be approved as presented. Mr. Ward seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 10:** Deliberation and Possible Action on Strategic Planning and the Legislative Budget Request for the 2010-11 Biennium

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 11:** Deliberation and Possible Action on Internal Audit of Purchasing, Property and Fleet Management Functions

Mr. Zajicek reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Russell moved the Board approve the Internal Audit of Purchasing, Property and Fleet Management Functions as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 12:** Review and Approval of Requests for Waiver as Per 31 TAC §523.6 (E)(2)(B),(E)

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the waivers be granted to Hutchinson, Southmost, Cross Timbers, Wharton County and Sulphur-Cypress Districts as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 13:** Deliberation and Possible Action to Approve Supplemental Allocations for Districts in the Mt. Pleasant Region

Mr. Garza reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the Board approve supplemental allocations to the Nacogdoches, Upshur-Gregg and Wood districts in the amount of \$50,000 as presented. Mr. Stewart seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 14:** Re-adoption; Revision, or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 517, Cost-Share Assistance for Brush Control §§517.22-517.37

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Stewart moved the Board re-adopt the rule as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 15:** Re-adoption, Revision, or Repeal of 31 TAC, Chapter 527, Removal of a District Director §§527.1 - 527.7

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Dodier moved the Board re-adopt the rule as presented. Mr. Stewart seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 16: State Board Member Elections**

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 17: Review State Board Fraud Policy**

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the Board reaffirm the current Fraud Policy as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 18: Semi-Annual Report**

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 19: Review and Consider Future State Meeting Sites**

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. The Board instructed Mr. Davis to check into availability and cost of the Hyatt Resort in Bastrop and the Hill Country Marriott.

**AGENDA ITEM 20: NACD Report**

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information and announced that Bea White will be retiring from the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts as of February 29, 2008.

**AGENDA ITEM 21: NASCA Report**

Mr. Davis stated State Board employees were working with NASCA on the South Central Meeting to be held in March.

**AGENDA ITEM 22: Consider Adoption of State Brush Plan**

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Stewart moved the Board adopt the State Brush Control Plan as presented. Mr. Dodier seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 23: Interim Committee Studies**

Mr. Davis reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 24: Coastal Coordination Council Report**

Mr. Egg reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 25: Clean Water Act (CWA) §319(h) NPS Grant Program Report.**

Mr. Helton reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 26: Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) Program Report**

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 27: Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program Report**

Mr. Wendt reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 28:** Deliberation and Possible Action Regarding Revision to TSSWCB Policy for Nonpoint Source Agricultural and Silvicultural Water Quality Complaints

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Mahler moved the Board approve the revised complaint process contingent upon review and approval by the Office of the Attorney General. Mr. Stewart seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 29:** Poultry Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) Program Report

Mr. Cochran reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 30:** Water Enhancement Program Report

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 31:** Deliberation and Possible Action Regarding Allocation of Fiscal Year 2008 General Revenue Water Enhancement Funds

Mr. Oswald reviewed the agenda information. Mr. Russell moved the Board approve the allocations as presented. Mr. Mahler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM 32:** Human Resources Report

Ms. Heitman reviewed the agenda information.

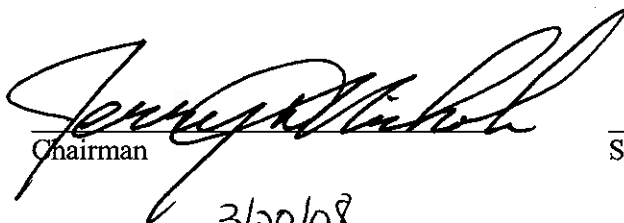
**AGENDA ITEM 33:** Public Information/Education Report

Mr. Gottschalk reviewed the agenda information.

**AGENDA ITEM 34:** Set a Date for the Next State Board Meeting

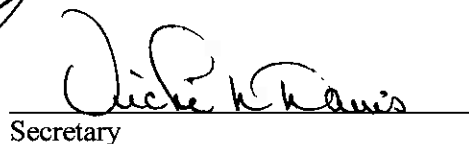
Board set the next Board meeting date as March 19-20, 2008.

Chairman Nichols called the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

  
Chairman

Date

3/20/08

  
Secretary

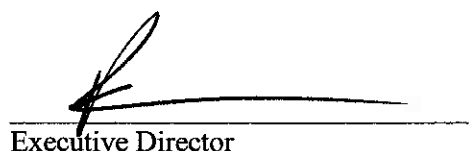
Date

3/20/08

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting held on January 16-17, 2008.

Date

3/20/08

  
Executive Director